

LAKE QUINSIGAMOND COMMISSION  
Wednesday, September 22, 2004 minutes  
Shrewsbury, Municipal Town Hall

Present:

Chairman Chief A. Wayne Sampson ;Nicholas Pepper; Sgt Jamros; Kenneth Polito; Michael Paika; Tristan Lundgren; John Wilson;

Absent: Melvin Gordon; Arthur LeDoux

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

Commissioner's reports:

K. Polito- Shrewsbury Conservation Commission approved extension- Order of Conditions for Flint Pond drawdown for another three years.

M. Paika- While touring lake with sub-committee noticed various dock situations. A substantial amount of residents are following LQC rules and regulations; however several not in 100% compliance.

Sgt. Jamros-Worcester Police Dept is compiling list of docks, which are not in compliance and will follow up with notices. (several need major repairs and others removal). Also noted seventeen trampolines, only two where registered.

T. Lundgren: Worcester Conservation Commission extended the Order of Conditions for drawdown of Flint Pond for the next three years.

b. Follow up -Request on behalf of this board, obtaining information at Whittlar pump station. W.C.C. has not taken any action in the past. Two suggestions, first to find out from the city what the situation is presently; and secondly, to send letter to DEP , requesting their procedures, reporting, enforcement and monitoring.

N. Pepper: No report

J. Wilson: Grafton Conservation Commission regarding extension the Order of Conditions for drawdown- waiting for reports. Expect approval on Sept 28 or Oct 5<sup>th</sup> the next meeting dates.

Chairman Sampson: Boathouse – still under construction.

b. Worcester boat will be patrolling until mid October.

c. Received complaint- resident feeding ducks. Follow up by Sgt. Jamaros who spoke with individual and complaints ceased.

Old business: Lake View Landing docks- awaiting for representative from other party

b. Docks on North Lake Avenue. Received legal opinion from the City of Worcester, portions of letter as follows:

“After reviewing the deeds received, it is my opinion, they do not have a deeded right to construct a dock on city land if the desired location is not city property. The request is not properly before us. Two deeds where submitted before us for review.” Went on to explain each separate deed. One deed referred to a plan on Natural History Park, dated 1919 -1920. Which contains the right of entry ship by owners of other lots on Natural History Park to the lot on the plan marked Beach lot, for the purpose of “getting access to shores of Lake Quinsigamond for bathing purposes.” This grant authority if still exists, does not extend the right to construct a dock, which presumable would be for boating purposes. It is in my opinion, in right of access for bathing purposes, does not encompass the erection of maintenance of a permanent fixture on the shore.

Chief Sampson - “ In addition, the City of Worcester is not giving permission for people to cross their land, or to do construction on city property such as install stairs, cut guard rails, landscape, etc.” The city

has taken a position that none of the above is authorized. This commission does not have the authority to issue any docks on the stretch of N. Lake Avenue unless the person has actual beach front property. Shall continue to examine each deed or case by case, when addressed in the future. Question regarding the present docks that are licensed, no action will be taken, unless this commission hears differently from the City.”

7:15pm Patrick Diggins –referring to letter dated July 21, the Worcester Development Office and County Convention, Visitors Bureau., approached the Rowing Association for assistance in a bid to host the U.S. Masters National Rowing Championships. The site director made a site visit to Lake Quinsigamond responded favorable on the course.

The last time this event was held in this area was in 1972. The scheduled race will be August 9 thru August 13 in the year 2005.

Representatives from Visitor Bureau, Mr. Gibbons, and Mr. Paris of MA Sports Commission spoke briefly highlighting this event: expecting 1600 to 1800 competitors (plus family members); attracts 3,000 people benefits all local hotels, and restaurants (normally generates about one million dollars for the community); Discussion followed: race course -1,000 meters; anticipate boat ramp closing on race days-only Corazzini; lane markers to run entire buoy line; course location could be moved, but never beyond south of rte 9; boating traffic; race time schedule between 9am until 6pm; no prior weekend racing; age group-over 30yrs old; parking and boat storage; details to enforce wake speed.

Motion made to approve an application- to host the National Rowing Championship, seconded, an accepted unanimously. And consent to work with Chief Sampson throughout the complete application process.

P.Diggins- Requested a meeting with High School & College coaches with Police Department on Safety issues. Chairman will set up appointment next week. Any concerns, complaints regarding rowers received by any commissioner, please forward and will be addressed.

7:30pm City Worcester DPW re: Whittlar Station

Joseph Buckley, Engineer Sewer Operations-met with Mr. Moylan prior and asked to re-iterate key issues:

- a. Past 20-30 years very adamant about trying to improve the overall water quality of the lake. Both to its gravity sources and its pumping stations.
- b. Anytime wastewater goes into lake, our department responds efficiently.

However, Mr. Moylan was unable to attend tonight’s meeting, but will attend any future meetings at your request.

Summary: “We had a blocked gravity sanitary sewer that goes into the Whittlar Station. The blocked gravity sanitary sewer backed up into the by-pass which goes to the detention facility which sits outside the station. Received telephone call from Commissioner Pepper around 6am, sent staff -who freed sanitary sewer by 9am. A small quantity of discharge waste water , saw evidence of sanitary waste enter the lake, and no evidence of paper solids (just grey water). The Public Health Dept sampled actual receiving water and was fecal coliform counted.”

Chairman questioned what is causing this ongoing problem?

Mr. Buckley- “It’s actual source control. A problem with what is getting into the sewer system. Upon research, there is approximately 26 facilities (restaurants and supermarkets) that are discharging FOG’s (fats, oils, and grease). When the flow slows down, and gets into the Whittlar Station, it settles and congeals therefore blocking the pipe out. This station is also the last point on the line before pumped out

of the neighborhood. It has a relief valve in place, that can allow waste water to be discharged to the lake. It is an emergency bypass. If it wasn't there, it would be bubbling up from a manhole somewhere else."

Chairman questioned-any resolutions, mechanism or alarm to notify when backup occurs?

Mr. Buckley-"This last incident, our department called both Shrewsbury and Worcester Public Health Departments, and spoke and met with DEP. DEP asked to investigate -both structural and non-structural improvements. The city of Worcester is installing an alarm system, started several days ago and should be operational next week.

Worcester has two programs in place, however to develop a FOG program, first need to develop an ordinance change for sizing and inspection. Then to implement the program, over the next several years.

N.Pepper: Actively involved since his residence abuts station. For the past 20-30 years, he has addressed this problem by documentation, and numerous meetings since 1984. With time, patience and effort he has tried repeatedly to remedy this sanitary problem.

Several issues discussed - daily inspections, maintenance, lagoon cleaning; misreading of meter; generator usage; sewer mains flushed; long term solutions throughout Worcester;

Chairman thanked the city for all their efforts correcting sewer problems to date.

Inquired how the public can be notified if any future problems arise? Notification can be done by the internet, will contact N. Allen , to receive additional information; also via cable..

LQC would appreciate in the future, for similar incidents to be notified and the Shrewsbury Board of Health.

Mr. Buckley also encouraged anyone who sees sewer coming out of an outfall, or notices any wastewater problems, please call 799-1480. (24hours a day)

OLD BUSINESS:

Lake View Landing

Chairman- While touring the lake last week, the commissioners viewed the docks. Spoke with Mr. Donahue earlier who is still concerned with boats entering the inner part of dock area. He refers to initial letter (last year) stating no boats were allowed inside. Which was a preliminary order to deal with an immediate problem at that location. A hearing was held and closed last month.

To date, there are four slips inside (easterly side of dock) and currently only used by one owner who has a small bass boat. It is not a navigational hazard in its present location, questioned the impact of larger boats.

Chairman-proposed to the association if they have any opposition to a restriction of 18' boats allowed on the inside. And if any resident requests a larger one, he/she must come before this commission prior dock re-issuance. This would solve existing problem and also limit the size of boats that could interfere or endanger children swimming next door.

Chairman requests a letter from the association confirming the above mentioned and be in agreement to a maximum 18' boat. Also, at their expense, posting of a No Wake Zone at the end of the dock.

Vote on this issue, next month.

Motion to adjourn ,seconded @ 8:12pm

Next meeting to be October 27, 2004 at 7:00pm New Selectmens Room

Respectfully submitted,  
K. Hemmerdinger